



# Become a Registered Apprentice and begin your ECE career pathway today!



### **Paid Job**

Earn as you learn with a guaranteed wage increase as you develop new skills



### **Education**

Gain workplace-relevant skills in the field of your choice through on-the-job learning



### **Credentials**

Receive an industry-recognized and nationally-portable credential



### **Jumpstart Your Career**

Ease the transition from school to career by working and learning at the same time



### **Degree Potential**

Earn college credits for your skills without accumulating student debt.



### **Mentorship**

Connect with mentors in your chosen industry who can help you advance your career

## What is a Registered Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway where you can obtain paid work experience, classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally-recognized credential.

## Why Become a Registered Apprentice?

- Develop new professional and transferable skills
- Earn while learning through an employer sponsorship
- Access affordable education
- Increase income tied to satisfactory program performance
- Pursue more lucrative career pathways
- Work towards earning a degree
- Achieve nationally recognized credentials
- Connect with mentors to advance your career



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# The Registered Apprenticeship Program at District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund

At the Training Fund, we provide access to Early Childhood Education career pathways by providing education, training, and work-based learning. Each stage of this pathway offers stackable Registered Apprenticeship opportunities for growth and development, allowing individuals to make significant impacts on children's lives and the field of early childhood education.

## 1. ENTRY-LEVEL ROLES

Entry-level roles provide hands-on experience working with young children and understanding classroom dynamics. Many positions require certification or licensure, which often involves completing specific coursework and passing exams.

### EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

- High School Diploma/GED
- CPR and First Aid Certification
- Certification/Licensure: Child Development Associate (CDA), state licensure

### ROLES:

- Assistant Teacher: Supporting lead teachers in classrooms.
- Childcare Worker: Caring for children in daycare or preschool settings.
- Preschool Aide: Assisting with classroom activities and child supervision.

## 2. SPECIALIZED ROLES

As you gain experience, you can specialize in areas like special education, infant/toddler care, or preschool education. This might involve pursuing additional certifications or training.

### EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Additional Certifications in areas of specialization
- Ongoing Professional Development

### ROLES:

- Lead Teacher: Managing a classroom independently.
- Special Education Teacher: Working with children with special needs.
- Infant/Toddler Specialist: Focusing on care for very young children.
- Montessori or Reggio Emilia Teacher: Specialized teaching approaches.

## 3. LEAD ROLES

Move into roles such as lead teacher, preschool director, or program coordinator. Leadership positions often require strong leadership skills, administrative abilities, and a deep understanding of early childhood development.

### EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's Degree in ECE or related field
- Leadership and Management Training

### ROLES:

- Preschool Director: Overseeing the operations of a preschool or childcare center.
- Program Coordinator: Managing educational programs within schools or organizations.
- Curriculum Developer: Designing and implementing educational curricula.
- Childcare Center Manager: Handling administrative and operational aspects of a childcare facility.



*A Registered Apprenticeship is a worthwhile investment for your career development!*

*For additional information about how you can become a Registered Apprentice, please contact us at [apprenticeships@1199ctraining.org](mailto:apprenticeships@1199ctraining.org).*



Each of the following stackable Registered Apprenticeships roles plays a critical part in the education industry, with opportunities for growth and specialization based on education, experience, and professional development.



### Child Development Associate (CDA)

A Child Development Associate (CDA) works with young children, typically from birth to age five, in early childhood education settings. CDAs foster social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development by creating and implementing developmentally appropriate activities and maintaining a safe environment. They also support children's individual needs and work closely with families, providing guidance and resources for learning at home. This role requires knowledge of child development principles, patience, creativity, and a commitment to ongoing professional development.

#### REQUIREMENTS

High school diploma or equivalent; completion of a CDA credential program with 120 hours of formal training and 480 hours of professional experience.

#### CAREER PATHWAY

CDAs can advance to become lead teachers, pursue an associate or bachelor's degree in early childhood education, or specialize in areas like special education or child psychology.



### ECE Teacher with an Associate Degree

An Early Childhood Education (ECE) Teacher with an Associate Degree plays a crucial role in early childhood education by designing and implementing developmentally appropriate lesson plans, managing the classroom, and conducting regular assessments to monitor children's progress. They foster a safe, inclusive, and nurturing environment, engage families in their child's learning, and stay current with best practices through ongoing professional development. Collaborating with colleagues and specialists, they ensure a holistic approach to child development, while advocating for children's needs and taking on leadership roles within the educational community.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Associate degree in Early Childhood Education; state certification or licensure as required.

#### CAREER PATHWAY

Teachers with an associate degree can pursue a bachelor's degree for further advancement, move into roles like lead teacher, or specialize in areas such as special education or curriculum development.

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## ECE Teacher with a Bachelor’s Degree

An Early Childhood Education (ECE) Teacher with a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education designs and implements developmentally appropriate curricula to support young children’s cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. They create a safe, inclusive classroom environment, manage behavior, and tailor instruction based on ongoing assessments. This role involves building strong family relationships, collaborating with colleagues, and taking on leadership responsibilities. Additionally, they stay current with best practices through professional development, advocate for children’s needs, and maintain accurate documentation and reporting.

### REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field; state certification or licensure as required.

### CAREER PATHWAY

Teachers with a bachelor’s degree can advance to leadership roles like program director or educational coordinator, pursue graduate studies in education, or specialize in early intervention or administration.



## Child Development Specialist

Child Development Specialists are dedicated professionals focused on the holistic growth and well-being of children. They assess developmental needs, create tailored intervention plans, and collaborate with families and educators to ensure optimal support. Child Development Specialists provide guidance on cognitive, social, and emotional development, fostering a nurturing environment that promotes each child’s unique potential and overall flourishing.

### REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor’s degree in child development, psychology, or a related field; advanced degrees or certifications may be required for specialized roles.

### CAREER PATHWAY

Specialists can advance to roles in educational leadership, child psychology, or special education, or they may pursue further education to become licensed therapists or counselors.

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